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Indian Wars in Augusta County, Virginia.

The following is a copy of one of the collections of the late Lyman C. Draper, which are preserved by the State Historical Society of Wisconsin. As is well known, Dr. Draper was indefatigable in his researches. From 1835 to 1870, he traveled thousands of miles, visiting the residences of descendants of early settlers, and ransacking barrels, boxes, drawers and pigeon-holes. He called this paper "The Preston Register," possibly because he attributed the authorship to Colonel William Preston. There are, however, some errors in the list, particularly in regard to names, which Colonel Preston would not have committed.

The Secretary of the Wisconsin Historical Society writes that the original paper has the appearance of an ancient manuscript, and as far as he knows has never been printed.

The number of people killed, wounded or captured by Indians, in Augusta county, from the beginning of the war till May, 1758, was, according to this Register, 307. Many more fell victims to Indian barbarity from May, 1758, to the fall of 1764, when the war ended.

It must be remembered that Augusta county covered a much larger territory in 1754-8 than it does now. Monongalia, Holston River, New River and South Branch are remote from the present county limits.

The Register fixes the dates and places of various occurrences of more or less historical interest, in regard to which tradition was silent or uncertain. July 8th, 1755, has heretofore been given as the day on which Colonel James Patton was killed and Mrs. Ingles (not English) and others were captured; the Register, however, gives the date as July 30th.

The descendants of Captain John Smith have been under the impression that he was captured at a fort on James River, where Pattonsburg now stands, but could give no date. The Register states that it was on June 25th, 1756, and at Fort Vause. This fort (so called) was on the head waters of Roanoke River, about ten miles from where Christiansburg now stands. The name was variously written Vass, Voss, Vaux and Vause.

Captain Smith was the ancestor of the late Judge Daniel Smith, of Rockingham, Colonel Benjamin H. Smith, of Kanawha, and Joseph Smith, of Augusta. He came to Augusta County from Ireland, by way of Philadelphia, in 1739, or early in 1740, and "proved his importation," with the view of taking up public land, at Orange County Court, June 26th, 1740, no court then sitting in the new county of Augusta. His children, born in Ireland, were Abraham, Henry, Daniel, John and Joseph. On June 24th, 1742, he qualified at Orange Court, as captain of Augusta militia. In the fall of that year, ten years after the first settlement, there were twelve organized militia companies in the county, each composed of about fifty men. William Beverley (although he did not live in the county) was county-lieutenant or commander-in-chief, and James Patton was colonel. Among the captains, besides John Smith, were Andrew Lewis, John Buchanan, John Willson and John McDowell. Buchanan was the son-in-law of Colonel Patton, and grandfather of the first Governor Floyd. Willson represented Augusta in the House of Burgesses for twenty-seven consecutive years, from 1745 to his death, in 1772. McDowell was the ancestor of the McDowells of Virginia, Kentucky and Ohio. He and eight of his men were killed by Indians December 21st, 1742.

The settled part of Augusta then embraced the present county, and parts of Rockbridge, Rockingham and Bath. The inhabitants were few and far between, the total population being about 2,400. In 1744, Peter Scholl, one of the captains, lived thirty miles from a public road.

Captain John Smith commanded a company in the disastrous Sandy Creek expedition, early in 1756. It would seem that after his return he was stationed at Fort Vause, a rude stockade, and had two of his sons with him, John and Joseph, the former a lieutenant. The family tradition is that the place was invested by a large body of French and Indians, and ammunition being exhausted, the small garrison gave up the place upon a promise of being permitted to retire. When the men came out, the enemy, enraged on account of the small number that had withstood them, slaughtered some and carried off others as prisoners. John Smith, Jr., was killed, while Captain Smith and his son Joseph were held as captives. The prisoners were taken down the

Mississippi River to New Orleans, and several of them, including Captain Smith, were shipped to France. Joseph Smith died on the way to New Orleans. Captain Smith was detained as a prisoner for two years, and his pay during that time was provided for by an act of Assembly found in Henning. After his return, probably in impaired health, he seems to have taken no active part in military affairs. He survived till the Revolutionary War began, and then, his military spirit having revived, he applied for a commission, and was greatly offended by a refusal on account of his age. His sons, Abraham and Daniel, were prominent in the Indian war, and his son-in-law, Hugh Bowen, was killed at the battle of King's Mountain. Abraham Smith's son, John, was an ensign at Point Pleasant, in 1774. Three of Daniel Smith's sons participated in the siege of Yorktown. He was colonel of Rockingham militia after the organization of that county, and lost his life at a military celebration of the victory of Yorktown. His horse, taking fright at the firing, sprung aside and sprained his rider's back, causing his death in a few days.

JOSEPH A. WADDELL,

Staunton, July 13th, 1894.

A REGISTER OF THE PERSONS WHO HAVE BEEN EITHER KILLED,
WOUNDED, OR TAKEN PRISONERS BY THE ENEMY, IN AUGUSTA
COUNTY, AS ALSO SUCH AS HAVE MADE THEIR ESCAPE.

1754. Robt. Foyles, his wife & 5 children, Monongalia, killed.
 Octob'r—Stereon Lyon, Holston River, killed.
 John Goldman, Holston River, killed.
 Benjamin Harrison, Holston River, killed.
1755. ——— Burk, Holston River, prisoner, escaped.
- May 3—Mary Baker, Holston River, wounded.
- June 18—Sam'l Stalnacker, Holston River, prisoner, escaped.
 Samuel Hydon, Holston River, prisoner.
 Adam Stalnacker, Holston River, killed.
 Mrs. Stalnacker, Holston River, killed.
 A servant man, Holston River, killed.
 Mathias Counie, Holston River, killed.

- June 19—Michael Houck, Holston River, killed.
- July 3—James McFarland, New River, killed.
John Bingeman, New River, killed.
Mrs. Bingeman, New River, killed.
Adam Bingeman, New River, killed.
John Cook, New River, killed.
Henry Lin, New River, killed.
A young child, New River, killed.
Nathaniel Welshire, New River, wounded.
Dutch Jacob, New River, wounded.
His wife, New River, prisoner, escaped.
Frederick Stern, New River, wounded.
Mrs. Bingman, jr., New River, wounded.
Mrs. Davies, New River, wounded.
Isaac Freeland, his wife and 5 children, New River,
prisoners.
Bridgeman's son and daughter and a stranger, New
River, prisoners.
- July 12—Lieut. Wright & 2 Soldiers, Reed Creek, killed.
- 30—Col. James Patton, New River, killed.
Caspa Barrier, New River, killed.
Mrs. Draper & one child, New River, killed.
James Cull; New River, wounded.
Mrs. English & her two children, New River, prison-
ers, escaped.
Mrs. Draper, jr., New River, prisoner.
Henry Leonard, New River, prisoner.
- Aug. 12—Morris Griffith, Vause's Fort, prisoner, escaped.
Henry Boughman, Greenbrier, killed.
John Cousi & his father-in-law, Greenbrier, killed.
Walter Fishpough, Greenbrier, killed.
George White, Greenbrier, killed.
Old Christopher, Greenbrier, killed.
Mrs. Cousler, Greenbrier, killed.
An old man, his wife and a school-master, Greenbrier,
killed.
- Sept. —John Thomas, Greenbrier, killed.
Mrs. Fishpough & 5 children, Greenbrier, prisoners.

Cousler's daughter & Mrs. Ineny, Greenbrier, prisoners.

Corporal Bennet, Greenbrier, killed.

1756. Two girls named Landsixo, South Branch, prisoners.

Feb. —Rob't Looney & a Dutchman, Reed Creek, killed.

March —John Lee, Reed Creek, killed.

Michael Motes, Reed Creek, killed.

Patrick Smith, Reed Creek, killed.

Moses Man, Reed Creek, prisoner.

Vallentine Harman, New River, killed.

Jacob Harman & one son, New River, killed.

Andrew Moses, New River, killed.

Thomas Daries, Roanoke, prisoner, escaped.

June 25—Capt. John Smith, Fort Vause, prisoner, returned.

Peter Looney, Fort Vause, prisoner, escaped.

Wm. Bratton, Fort Vause, prisoner, returned.

Joseph Smith, Fort Vause, prisoner.

Wm. Pepper, Fort Vause, prisoner.

Mrs. Vause & two daughters, a negro & 2 young Indians, and a servant-man, Fort Vause, prisoners.

Ivan Medley & 2 daughters, Fort Vause, prisoners.

James Bell, Fort Vause, prisoner.

Christopher Hicks, Fort Vause, prisoner.

——— Cole, Fort Vause, prisoner.

——— Graham, Fort Vause, prisoner.

Benj. Daries, Fort Vause, prisoner.

Lieut. John Smith, Fort Vause, killed.

John Tracey, Fort Vause, killed.

John English, Fort Vause, killed.

Mrs. Mary English, Fort Vause, prisoner.

Wm. Robinson, Fort Vause, wounded.

Tho. Robinson, Fort Vause, wounded.

Sam'l Robinson, Fort Vause, wounded.

Robt. Pepper, Fort Vause, wounded.

Sept. 11—Ensign Madison, Jackson's River, killed.

12 13 14—Nicholas Carpenter, Jackson's River, killed.

Steren Sowel, Jackson's River, killed.

James Mais, Jackson's River, killed.

James Montgomery, Jackson's River, killed.

- Nicholas Nut, Jackson's River, killed.
 John Bird, Jackson's River, killed.
 George Kinkead, Jackson's River, killed.
 ——— Fry, Jackson's River, killed.
 Mrs. Boyl, Jackson's River, killed.
 3 children named Parsinger, Jackson's River, killed.
 Joseph Swobs, Jackson's River, wounded.
 ——— Willson, Jackson's River, wounded.
 5 children of Chas. Boyl, Jackson's River, prisoners.
 David Gallaway, Jackson's River, prisoner, escaped.
 Mrs. McConell, Jackson's River, prisoner, escaped.
 Joseph Carpenter, Jackson's River, prisoner, escaped.
 Mrs. Bird & 6 children, Jackson's River, prisoners.
 Mrs. Kinkead & 3 children, Jackson's River, prisoners.
 Mrs. Parsinger & 2 children, Jackson's River, prisoners.
 5 children called Carpenter, Jackson's River, prisoners.
 Sam'l Brown, a boy, Jackson's River, prisoner.
 ——— Swobs, a boy, Jackson's River, prisoner.
 John Robinson, Fort Vause, killed.
 1857. John Walker, Fort Vause, prisoner.
 Feb. —Jacob Peters lost 6 children, South Branch, prisoners, 1 escaped.
 March —Wm. Bradshaw and son, Craig's Creek, prisoners.
 May 14—And. Arnold, Jackson's River, killed.
 Henry Lawless, Jackson's River, killed.
 16—John Moon, Cow pasture, killed.
 Mrs. Moor and 5 children, Cow pasture, prisoners.
 George Neese and 2 sons, South Branch, prisoners.
 ——— Sudie, South Branch, killed.
 Henry Lawrence, South Branch, killed.
 Michael Freeze & wife, South Branch, killed.
 July —Mark Tallet, Jackson's River, killed.
 A servant man, Jackson's River, prisoner.
 James Allen, Jackson's River, wounded.
 ——— Swobs, Jackson's River, wounded.
 25—Robert Renick, Forks of James River, killed.
 Thos. Moon, Forks of James River, killed.

- Mrs. Renick and 7 children, Forks of James River, prisoners.
 Mrs. Denis, Forks of James River, prisoner.
 John Crawford, jr., Craig's Creek, killed.
 Jno. Alex. Crawford, Craig's Creek, wounded.
- Sept. —Serj. Henry, Fort Dinwiddie, killed.
 James Stuart, Cow pasture, killed.
 James Stuart, jr., Cow pasture, prisoner.
 James McClung and 2 children named Cantuell, Cow pasture, prisoners.
- Oct. —James McFerrin, Catawba, killed.
 Wm. McFerrin, Catawba, prisoner.
- Nov. —3 Dutch people, Brock's Gap, 1 killed, 2 prisoners.
 John States, Brock's Gap, killed.
1758. Abm. Merchant, Brock's Gap, killed.
- Jan. —Wm. Ward, a boy, Fort Dinwiddie, prisoner.
 A Soldier of Capt. Woodward, Roanoke, killed.
 A Servant of Bryan's, Roanoke, killed.
- Mch. 19—Wm. Clepole, Brock's Gap, killed.
 Peter Moser, South Branch, killed.
 Nicholas Frank, South Branch, killed.
 John Coonrad, South Branch, killed.
 John Cunningham & 2 others (names forgotten), South Branch, prisoners.
 George Moses, South Branch, wounded.
 Adam Harper, South Branch, wounded.
 A servant-man killed, and maid and 1 child prisoners, Cow pasture.
- 20—James Gatlire, Roanoke, killed.
 Joseph Love, Roanoke, killed.
 Wm. Love, Roanoke, killed.
 A servant maid & child, Roanoke, prisoners.
 ——— Snodgrass, a girl, Catawba, prisoner.
- Ap'l 24—John McCreary, Cow pasture, prisoner.
 Wm. McCreary, Cow pasture, prisoner.
 Capt. James Dunlap, South Branch, killed.
 Josiah Willson, South Branch, killed.
 John Hutchinson, South Branch, killed.
 Thomas Caddon, South Branch, killed.

- Henry McCullam, South Branch, killed.
John Wright, South Branch, killed.
Thomas Smith, South Branch, killed.
1758. Robert McNully, South Branch, killed.
Wm. Elliott, South Branch, killed.
Ap'l 27—Mrs. Elliott, South Branch, killed.
Ludwick Falck and wife, South Branch, killed.
Adam Little, South Branch, killed.
—— Brock, South Branch, killed.
John Ramsey, South Branch, killed.
Wm. Burk, South Branch, killed.
—— Rooney, South Branch, killed.
Wm. Woods, South Branch, killed.
John McCulley, South Branch, killed.
Thomas Searl, South Branch, killed.
James Gill, South Branch, killed.
John Guy and a stranger, South Branch, killed.
28—Capt. Sylest and 16 persons not known, South Fork,
prisoners.
24 persons at same place missing, South Fork, prison-
ers.
May —Moses Moore, Jackson's River, prisoner.